

# Agriculture

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## INTRODUCTION

A farmer may never see an agriculture census publication, which might cover anything from crop acreage to interest expense. But complete and accurate agricultural statistics help ensure the orderly marketing and distribution of agricultural products, benefiting farmers and consumers. The census is the only source of complete, consistent agricultural data for each county; it also includes such data for the States and the United States.

Agricultural statistics are used by government, business, and other institutions. Federal, State, and local agencies use data for planning rural development, extension work, and agricultural research. The Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and other organizations use agriculture census data, collected every 5 years, as a benchmark for such current statistical series as the Gross Domestic Product, Producer Price Index, and Farm Income Accounts. Congress uses census data in developing and revising farm programs.

Farm cooperatives, commodity and trade associations, and agribusiness use the data to assist in locating new factories or service and distribution centers, allocating research funds, forecasting markets, selecting marketing areas, and making advertising and other marketing decisions. This improves farmers' access to markets and suppliers, too.

## Censuses and Surveys

The need for agricultural statistics has long been recognized. The Federal Government took a census of agriculture every 10 years from 1840 to 1920 and every 5 years from 1925 through 1974. Until 1950, the government took the censuses of population, housing, and agriculture together in years ending in "0."

From 1954 to 1974, the Bureau took a census of agriculture for the years ending in "4" and "9." In 1976, Congress authorized a census of agriculture for 1978 and 1982 and for years ending in "2" and "7" after that. This made the agriculture census coincide with the economic censuses covering manufacturing, mining, construction, retail trade, wholesale trade, service industries, and selected transportation activities.

The definition of a farm for the census has changed over the years. Since the 1978 census, a "farm" has meant any place that produced and sold (or normally would have sold) agricultural products for \$1000 or more.

In addition to the census, a variety of related surveys have covered subjects such as irrigation, drainage, agricultural economics, and land ownership.

## What Does the Census Cover?

The first agriculture censuses of 1840 and 1850 asked farmers about livestock only in terms of the number of cattle, milk cows, and working oxen. The censuses also covered the production of Indian corn, pounds of cheese made, pounds of silk cocoons, gallons of wine produced, and other items.

As the Nation's agriculture expanded westward, the acreage under cultivation grew. Also over the years, mechanization, specialization, and complexity increased. The scope of the census of agriculture had to expand at the same time in order to keep pace with these rapid developments.

The Census Bureau reviews the purpose, content, and necessity for the data in preparing every census. In recent years, the Bureau has asked only basic, essential questions of all farms, along with some other questions asked of about one farm in four.

For 1992, the Bureau collected data in the 50 States on these main subjects:

- Acreage
- Crops
- Fruit and nut production
- Vegetables
- Nursery and greenhouse products
- Value of sales
- Farm related income
- Land use
- Irrigation, irrigation organizations
- Type of organization
- Livestock and poultry
- Animal specialties
- Characteristics and occupation of operator
- Use of fertilizers, pesticides, and other chemicals
- Expenditures for interest, production items, and energy
- Machinery and equipment
- Market value of land and buildings

Inventory figures cover December 31, 1992, and data on citrus crops are from the bloom of 1991. Generally, farms reported all other information for calendar year 1992.

Figures 6, 7, and 8 are not available.

The content of the 1992 census is similar to the 1987 census, with more information on farm-related income, participation in Federal programs, and production costs.

**For more recent references to agriculture data products, see the section entitled Data Products Issued October-December 1995, below.** Listings of subsequent releases appear in the *Monthly Product Announcement* and the *Daily List* (see abstracts numbered 44 and 15.5, respectively). In addition, the online service, Agridata network (1-800-558-9044), supplies the latest data via personal computers.

**NOTE—The number above the abstracts makes the indexes easier to use. It should not be used for ordering products.**

## DATA PRODUCTS ISSUED OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1995

The following data products were issued during the last quarter of 1995. Abstracts for some may appear in this chapter; generally, though, they were published too late for an abstract to be prepared. **Unless noted otherwise, these data products may still be ordered from the Government Printing Office (GPO). Orders should include the GPO Stock Number. However, availability is subject to change and reports may be superseded. For the latest ordering information, contact Customer Services, Bureau of the Census (301-457-4100).**

This list excludes periodicals issued more often than once a year. Any such periodicals are described later in this chapter and listed in appendix A.

Reports carried in full or in part on CENDATA, our online information service, are identified by the word "CENDATA" in brackets at the end of the report listing.

(100)

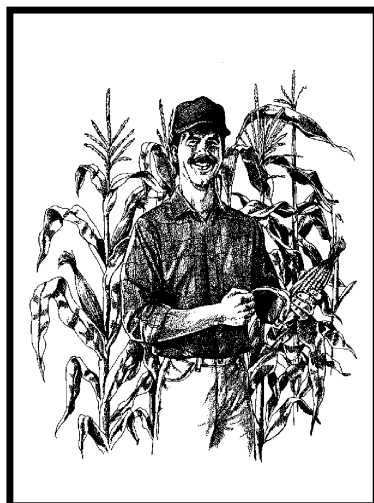
AC92-R-10. Quick Facts From the Census of Agriculture. 2 pp. No charge. Contact Agriculture and Financial Statistics Division, Information Staff; telephone 1-800-523-3215.

AC92-S-1. Volume 2. Subject Series—1992 Agricultural Atlas of the United States. 228 pp. \$20. GPO Stock No. 003-024-08792-8.

## GENERAL DATA AND REFERENCE

This section includes not only minutes for meetings and guides to data but also products presenting statistics based on varied sources.

Other chapters also include agricultural data. The General and Reference chapter cites "agriculture" in some abstracts in the economic and general statistics sections, for example. Similarly, some abstracts in the Population chapter cite people on farms. The Foreign Trade chapter includes data products that report on agricultural imports and exports. For data products in various chapters, see references under "Agriculture" in the Subject Index.



(120)

**American Agriculture: A Need to Know (VIDEOTAPE)**

*Subject content*—Illustrates highlights and describes products from the 1987 agriculture census. This VHS videotape includes information on the number of farms sold, farms with sales of \$10,000 or more, characteristics of farm operators, and value of products sold. The videotape also describes all the printed publications and machine-readable products available from the agriculture census and surveys.

13 1/2 minutes. 1990.

No longer available.

(122)

**Guide to the 1992 Census of Agriculture and Related Statistics**

*Subject content*—Describes many agriculture data sources. The 1992 Census of Agriculture is the only source offering

comparable county by county data and classifying farms by size, tenure, age and principal occupation of operator, and value of sales.

After discussing this census and its principal product series, the guide features other Census Bureau sources. For example, it notes such topics as race and income of farmers from population surveys and dairy products from the census of manufactures. The Guide identifies reference collections and other sources of data products and assistance.

54 pp. 1994. Single copies free.

Contact the Agriculture and Financial Statistics Division, Information Staff, at 1-800-523-3215 for copies.

New! (124)



**Minutes and Reports of Committee Recommendations: Census Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics**

*Subject content*—Presents minutes of the Census Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics meeting generally held each year by the Census Bureau. The reports cover a wide range of topics including agriculture census and survey content and methodology. The reports feature recommendations by the advisory committee and the Census Bureau's responses.

A series of reports in progress. Pages vary. Single copies free.

Available from Agriculture Division, Room 437—Iverson Mall, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.

(126)



**The 1992 Census of Agriculture (AC92-R-1)**

*Subject content*—Provides a brief introduction to the Census of Agriculture. The brochure, released before the census was taken, describes some uses of the data as well as some aspects of the procedures. For example, it shows how the Census Bureau determined which questions to ask. Also, the brochure lists planned census reports and data files.

8 pp. 1992. Single copies free.

Contact Customer Services for the latest ordering information.

New! (127)



**1992 Census of Agriculture Feature Stories On-Line: AGBRIEF's**

*Data time span*—1992.

*Geographic areas covered*—Selected States and counties.

**Subject content**—Includes, typically, eight short reports that display data from the 1992 Census of Agriculture in an easy-to-read format. There is a story centered around the all-American 4th of July picnic that focuses on the origin of some of the traditional foods we eat. Another story profiles ginseng production in the U.S. Future plans include features on Thanksgiving, cash crops, and on-farm injuries.

*Online through the Census/BEA Bulletin Board (301-457-2310) and at the Economy site at the Bureau's home page on the Internet (<http://www.census.gov>).*

*Contact the Agriculture and Financial Statistics Division, Information Staff, at 1-800-523-3215 for more information about census of agriculture feature stories on-line.*

## New! (128)

### **Quick Facts From the Census of Agriculture**

**Data time span**—1992, with some comparative data for earlier census years.

**Geographic areas covered**—United States and selected counties.

**Subject content**—Illustrates agricultural statistics for selected topics. Data are presented in color by means of vertical bar graphs, horizontal bar graphs, pie charts, and table charts. Topics, including county ranking data from the census, are also shown.

*Eight panel foldout brochure. 1995. Free.*

*Contact the Agriculture and Financial Statistics Division, Information Staff, at 1-800-523-3215 for copies.*

### **Residents of Farms and Rural Areas**

See abstract number 1208 in the Population chapter.

### **Product Profile No. 11. 1992 Census of Agriculture—Data for States and Counties**

See abstract number 52 in the General and Reference chapter.

## 1992 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

The 1992 Census of Agriculture enumerated farms in the United States. (See additional background information at the beginning of the chapter.) Census data products released through September 1995 are described below. Additional products for the 1992 census are reported in the Data Products Issued October-December

1995 section above. (See abstract number 100.) (The 1992 census was collected during the first half of 1993.)

The reports include statistics on number of farms, farm characteristics, livestock, poultry, livestock and poultry products, crops, and irrigation. Other 1992 final reports include a State and county ranking report, an agricultural atlas, and estimates of the completeness of the census.

The series volume may be represented by a letter(s), noted here, rather than a volume number:

*Volume 1, Geographic Series (A)*

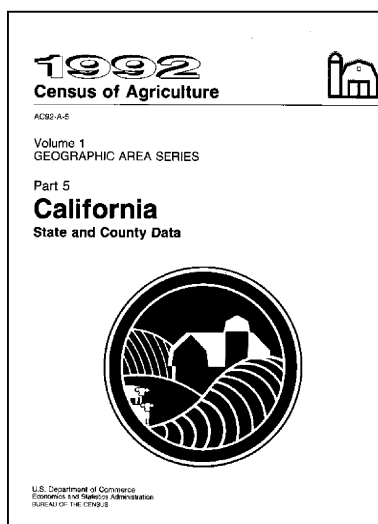
*Volume 2, Subject Series (S)*

*Volume 3, Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey, 1994 (RS)*

Other numbers in series designations may indicate "parts" of a volume.

The Census Bureau is able to prepare data to meet user specifications. Sponsors must cover all costs for specially prepared work.

For more information about the 1992 Agriculture Census, call the Agriculture Information Office toll free at 800-523-3215. Also you may order a guide to the census (see abstract number 122). For information about the 1987 census, see the *Census Catalog and Guide: 1994* or call the above number.



## New! (130)

### **Geographic Area Series—State and County Data (AC92-A-1 to 54)**

**Data time span**—1987 and 1992, with some comparative data for earlier years.

**Geographic areas covered**—United States, States, counties, and outlying areas.

**Subject content**—Contains data on farms, farm characteristics, and farm products. These reports provide detailed data in national and State tables for the United States and in county and State tables for each State. In addition, tables provide selected data for Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

They also include data on number of farms, land use, irrigation, crops, livestock, poultry, value of farm products sold, farms classified by specified characteristics, expenses, and operator characteristics.

Also shown are selected 1992 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications, such as size of farm, tenure of operator, type of organization, market value of agricultural products sold, age and principle occupation of operator, and standard industrial classification. Comparable 1987 data are included for many tables.

**NOTE**—This is Volume 1, Geographic Area Series. *Press Releases and Highlights*, based on these reports, are available online (see page 2). For more information about content of the online reports, contact the Agriculture and Financial Statistics Division, Information Staff, at 1-800-523-3215.

*A series of 54 paperbound reports, one for each State, the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. Price for the complete series, \$557. 28 of the reports appeared in the 1995 Catalog. Contact Customer Services for the latest ordering information.*

**Change sheets, ranging from one to four pages each, have been issued for the U.S. Summary and all State reports except Alaska; they are available free of charge from Customer Services.**

**1. Alabama.** 514 pp. \$28. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00054-4.

**2. Alaska.** 244 pp. \$8.50. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00055-2.

**3. Arizona.** 300 pp. \$16. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00056-1.

**4. Arkansas.** 536 pp. \$28. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00057-9.

**5. California.** 524 pp. \$28. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00058-7.

**6. Colorado.** 478 pp. \$26. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00059-5.

**7. Connecticut.** 282 pp. \$16. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00060-9.

**8. Delaware.** 268 pp. \$15. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00061-7.

**9. Florida.** 514 pp. \$28. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00062-5.

**10. Georgia.** 832 pp. \$37. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00063-3.

**11. Hawaii.** 260 pp. \$15. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00064-1.

12. **Idaho.** 418 pp. \$23. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00065-0.
13. **Illinois.** 622 pp. \$24. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00066-8.
14. **Indiana.** 620 pp. \$33. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00067-6.
15. **Iowa.** 620 pp. \$32. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00068-4.
16. **Kansas.** 638 pp. \$34. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00069-2.
17. **Kentucky.** 712 pp. \$35. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00070-6.
18. **Louisiana.** 508 pp. \$27. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00071-4.
19. **Maine.** 314 pp. \$18. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00072-2.
20. **Maryland.** 338 pp. \$19. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00073-1.
21. **Massachusetts.** 294 pp. \$17. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00074-9.
22. **Michigan.** 590 pp. \$31. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00075-7.
23. **Minnesota.** 582 pp. \$30. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00076-5.
24. **Mississippi.** 558 pp. \$30. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00077-3.
25. **Missouri.** 684 pp. \$35. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00078-1.
26. **Montana.** 466 pp. \$25. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00079-0.
27. **Nebraska.** 614 pp. \$32. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00080-3.
28. **Nevada.** 306 pp. \$18. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00081-1.
29. **New Hampshire.** 288 pp. \$16. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00082-0.
30. **New Jersey.** 338 pp. \$19. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00083-8.
31. **New Mexico.** 390 pp. \$21. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00084-6.
32. **New York.** 494 pp. \$27. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00085-4.
33. **North Carolina.** 638 pp. \$34. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00086-2.
34. **North Dakota.** 474 pp. \$26. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00087-1.
35. **Ohio.** 688 pp. \$32. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00088-9.
36. **Oklahoma.** 562 pp. \$30. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00089-7.
37. **Oregon.** 412 pp. \$22. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00090-1.
38. **Pennsylvania.** 526 pp. \$28. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00091-9.
39. **Rhode Island.** 254 pp. \$14. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00092-7.
40. **South Carolina.** 432 pp. \$23. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00093-5.
41. **South Dakota.** 504 pp. \$27. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00094-3.

42. **Tennessee.** 602 pp. \$31. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00095-1.
43. **Texas** (Part 43A, 628 pp.; Part 43B, 632 pp.). \$40 per set. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00096-0.
44. **Utah.** 358 pp. \$19. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00097-8.
45. **Vermont.** 286 pp. \$16. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00098-6.
46. **Virginia.** 626 pp. \$33. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00099-4.
47. **Washington.** 408 pp. \$22. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00100-1.
48. **West Virginia.** 442 pp. \$24. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00101-0.
49. **Wisconsin.** 548 pp. \$29. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00102-8.
50. **Wyoming.** 310 pp. \$18. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00103-6.
51. **United States, Summary and State Data.** 544 pp. \$29. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00104-4.
52. **Puerto Rico.** 270 pp. \$18. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00105-2.
53. **Guam.** 68 pp. \$5. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00106-1.
54. **Virgin Islands of the United States, Area Data.** 40 pp. \$3.75. GPO Stock No. 803-010-00107-9.

## New! (132)

### **Geographic Area Series: 1992 (CD-ROM)**

*Data time span*—1992, with comparative data for earlier years (State file includes 1987; county file includes 1987 and 1982).

*Geographic areas covered*—United States, States, and counties.

*Subject content*—Similar to *Volume 1. Geographic Area Series, State and County Data* (AC92-A). See abstract number 130.

The CD-ROM's include all 50 States and the United States. They also contain display and retrieval software (*GO* and *EXTRACT*) for customized data extractions.

*Reference materials*—Technical documentation is included on the CD-ROM. It is not available separately.

*Compact discs (CD-ROM's).* Released 1994. \$150 for two-disc set. Order from Customer Services. See *Ordering Products* section.

## New! (134)

### **Geographic Area Series: 1992 (Diskette)**

*Geographic areas covered and subject content*—Similar to AC92-A. See abstract number 130.

*Diskettes are available by special order from the Agriculture Division, telephone 800-523-3215.*

## New! (136)

### **Final County File: 1992**

*Data time span*—1992, with some comparative data for 1987.

*Geographic areas covered*—States and counties.

*Subject content*—Similar to *Volume 1. Geographic Area Series, State and County Data* (AC92-A). See abstract number 130.

*Reference materials*—*Census of Agriculture: 1992 Final County File Technical Documentation* contains descriptive information about the file and a record layout. One free copy accompanies each file order. When ordered separately, it is available for \$10 from Customer Services.

*Computer tape.* Released 1995. \$350. Also available for individual States or groups of States. Order from Customer Services. See *Ordering Products* section.

## New! (138)

### **Final State File: 1992**

*Data time span*—1992, with some comparative data for 1987.

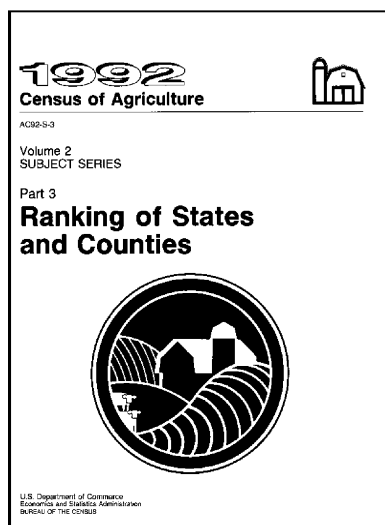
*Geographic areas covered*—States.

*Subject content*—Similar to *Volume 1. Geographic Area Series, State and County Data* (AC92-A), but without county data. See abstract number 130.

File A of the Final State File provides State-level data for the simpler tabulations of the data items covered in the census; they are tables 1 through 45 in the *Geographic Area Series* reports. File B provides data for the more detailed tabulations, each generally a summary of data items cross-tabulated by one item in particular (for example, "Summary by Size of Farm," table 49). These tabulations comprise tables 46 through 52.

*Reference materials*—*Census of Agriculture: 1992 Final State File Technical Documentation* contains descriptive information about File A and a record layout. *Census of Agriculture: 1992 Final State Cross-Tabulation File Technical Documentation* contains description information about File B and a record layout. One free copy of each accompanies each file order. When ordered separately, each is available for \$10 from Customer Services.

*Computer tape.* Released 1995. File A, \$175; File B, \$175. Order from Customer Services. See *Ordering Products* section.



### New! (150)

#### *Ranking of States and Counties* (AC92-S-3)

*Data time span*—1992, with comparative data for 1987.

*Geographic areas covered*—United States, States, and counties.

*Subject content*—Shows the ranking of States and counties in order of importance for selected items for the 1992 Census of Agriculture. Items ranked include number of farms, value of products sold, inventory of livestock and poultry, and production and acreage of major crops. Most tables show data for 20 leading States and 100 leading counties. Also, most tables include the cumulative percent of the U.S. total as each leading State or county is ranked.

NOTE—This is number 3 of Volume 2, Subject Series.

GPO Stock Number 003-024-08771-5.

143 pp. 1995. \$11.

Contact Customer Services for the latest ordering information.

### New! (154)

#### *ZIP Code Tabulations (Farms by ZIP Code, 1992 Census, and Farms by ZIP Code, 1987 Census)*

*Data time span*—1992 with comparative data for 1987.

*Geographic areas covered*—five-digit ZIP Codes in the United States.

*Subject content*—Presents agricultural statistics by five-digit postal ZIP Code for all farms, regardless of size, in all 50 States. Tables show the total market value of products sold and the number of farms by size for the following: land in farms; inventory of cattle, calves, hogs, and pigs; cropland harvested; and selected crops. Selected crops vary by State and tables show number of farms by acres harvested for commodities, such as tobacco, cotton, soybeans for beans, peanuts for nuts, and land in orchards.

NOTE—The ZIP Code data are not offered in a printed report. An alternate title for the file is *ZIP Code Tabulations of Selected Items From the 1992 and 1987 Censuses of Agriculture* (AC92-S-5).

The 1992 Census of Agriculture ZIP Code data also are included on the 1992 Economic Census CD-ROM. (See abstract number 1.4 in the General and Reference chapter.)

*Reference materials*—Technical documentation is included on the CD-ROM. It is not available separately.

*Compact disc (CD-ROM)*. Released 1995. \$150. Order from Customer Services. See *Ordering Products* section.



# MONTHLY PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

*A way to know about new products from the  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS*

The *Monthly Product Announcement* (MPA) is a free listing of all Census Bureau products that become available each month. Included are order forms for requesting materials from the Census Bureau and the U.S. Government Printing Office. To subscribe, contact Customer Services (301-457-4100).

MPA also can be accessed online at the Census Bureau Internet site (<http://www.census.gov/>).